

Salem Quarter News

Winter 2017



*But he who prophecies speaks
edification,
exhortation
and comfort to men.*

Although I had great peace, in giving up to speak a few words in meetings when required, yet I often had to experience close baptisms; such stripping seasons that I have been ready to call all in question, and conclude that I have been misled and that it was not required of me to speak in public. But my great and good Master, who saw my desires, suffered me not to sink, but condescended in mercy to favor at seasons, with the lifting up with the light of his glorious countenance, whereby my poor drooping spirit was raised and comforted.

Elizabeth Collins, Evesham, NJ

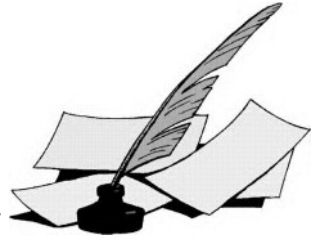
Front Cover Picture: *A Tri-Quarter Shirt* Thomas Valdez,
Mickleton Mtg. See story p. 16

Front Cover Quote: I Corinthians 14:3 NKJV

Inside Front Cover Quote: *Friends Library*, Vol. XI, p. 451

Stories and Gifts

*Barry Sloane,
Clerk of Quarter*



John Bond, a member of Mickleton Meeting, wrote a book a couple of years ago entitled “The Story of You”. Each of us has an engaging and rich story that is worth exploring and sharing. In the back of the book are numerous questions to help people start writing about themselves. Presently, our children in First Day School are videotaping those in Meeting who wish to share their stories and I can’t wait to view a treasure trove of Friends’ gifts!

During my time as Quarter clerk (seven years! Can you believe it?), I have told you many stories about many exciting people who bestowed gifts on me, usually without knowing it. It has been fun sharing them with you. Permit me to share one more.

Some of you know that I was raised Roman Catholic and came to Quakerism because I physically couldn’t get through a mass on Sunday, but I needed a home. Suffice it to say, I had accumulated a lot of emotional trash and anger regarding the church, much of it entwined with a very rough six years in a Benedictine school. I carried that for 25 years and then I met and fell in love with Dianne. Early in our dating, she told me about Father Michael Doyle of Sacred Heart in Camden and persuaded me to go with her to a mass. As it happened, that Sunday was Pentecost. To me, that is the holiest of all days and the whole punchline of the New Testament. It’s when the Holy Spirit finally connects with us willfully stubborn human beings. When I entered the church, everybody was holding a branch of green leaves. The whole church looked like a forest and I was overwhelmed. In that moment, not only did my anger leave me, but I was at long last, able to love the church of my childhood again! The Holy Spirit chose that day of all to take me out of that darkness I had carried all those years. Dianne and I got married in Sacred Heart and the next week we exchanged our vows at Mickleton.

So now we have been through a brutal election with stunning results and a newly elected President who sure doesn’t share my values and who is bringing a dark time to us. I console myself with the thought that maybe that darkness is necessary, but rest assured, we will see light once more. I think back to that Sunday when the light returned to me and have faith that the light will return to our country.

And so it is with this Yule time. We entered the darkest time of year and the light will return. I hope that your holidays were joyful and may each of you have a blessed and bountiful New Year.

You have bestowed the gift of your trust, your friendship and the chance to write these articles. I have enjoyed this job and hope the next

clerk gets at least as much satisfaction from it as I. So I will end this as I started: “For all that has been—Thanks. For all that will be - Yes.” (Dag Hammarskjöld)

Micah 6:8

He has shown all you people what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Salem Quarterly Meeting Minutes

12/11/2016

Salem Quarterly Meeting met 12/11/2016 at Salem Meeting. Out of worship, Clerk Barry Sloane (Mickleton) convened the meeting, welcomed Friends and visitors, and expressed our gratitude to Salem Friends for their gracious hospitality and delicious soups. There was a Friendly presence for business of twenty-three representing six monthly meetings in the Quarter.

Minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting on 9/11/2016 were approved as they appeared in the newsletter.

On behalf of the Steering Committee as acting clerk, Mike Ayars (Woodstown) reported on behalf of the Steering Committee, the SJ Chapter of the Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts, and the Lower Alloways Creek Meetinghouse Committee. He highlighted the committee reports, upcoming quarter programs, and advances in the Quarter electronic presence. (p. 8)

The Finance Committee report was submitted by Michael Shapiro (Salem). Since the ninth month quarterly meeting, we have received \$1,650 in quarter covenant payments from Greenwich, Mullica Hill, and Mickleton. Seaville has sent a quarterly payment for their Education Fund designated covenant.

Expenses for the period total \$4,181, included: Carpenter Tree Service for Lower Alloways Creek, etc. mowing; Saw & Square for Port Elizabeth mowing; Davey Tree for Lower Alloways Creek tree work; Print Signs and Designs for archival minute printing and binding; JVS for newsletters; and Tom Etherington for newsletter postage.

On behalf of Emily Blanck, Bill Carrigan reported that Continuing Sessions at Westtown School took place with a slightly reduced attendance. The theme was *Centering and Discerning Our Leading*

focusing on the following questions: *When you stand, who holds you up? When you worship, how do you return to your center? When you walk, who walks beside you? When you move, who dances with you? How do you and do we all ground our work and witness in spirit so that it may be impactful, sustainable and full of life?* The next Continuing Sessions will be at Arch Street on 3/25.

The Quarter Nominating Committee is scheduling a meeting for January.

On behalf of the Indian Affairs Committee, Sandra Boone Murphy (Mickleton), reported on the activities and priorities of the committee. She shared the heart and spirit behind the committee work and highlighted the informational programs available, including a movie, *The Doctrine of Discovery*. Sandy and Jim are also certified to present two workshops, *Roots of Injustice*, *Seeds of Change* and *Re-Discovering America, Understanding Colonization*, which are available on a sliding fee scale. The next committee meeting will be in Woodstown on 2/15/2017. *(See report p. 11)*

Dan Murray, CEO of Friends Village, reported that Friends Village is doing well. They are celebrating their 120th year and currently house over 200 residents. As they acknowledge their roots and the past, they are continuing to look forward with strategic planning for the next 120 years!

The Worship & Ministry Committee met in worship on Friday evening. They discussed past and future programs, methods of opening and closing worship and reports from supported committees. They closed in worship and prayer for all members of the Quarter. *(See report p. 15)*

A report from Friends School Mullica Hill was presented by Bill Carrigan (Mickleton). Three Board members are rotating off, Alice Waddington (Salem), Bill Schmidt (Central Philadelphia), and Dorothy Kramme (Woodstown). Alice and Bill were awarded the Kramme Award for their service. Dorothy was awarded the Founder's Award in 2015. The Board welcomes two new members, Elizabeth Morton, retired head of Pyn Ryn School, and Victoria Kuhn, attorney and Director of Labor Relations at the NJ Dept of Corrections. The future of the COPE Building will be a priority on 2017. Bill announced and invited Friends to two upcoming events at the school, Friday worship and the Winter Concert.

Diane Metz and Helena Bew (Seaville) shared the concern of Seaville Meeting regarding the potential formation by the US government to create a database of American Muslims. At their last meeting for business they discussed their distress by this prospect and resolved that if it should occur they would each register as Muslim in solidarity with American Muslims. During the Holocaust when the wearing of an identifying yellow Star of David by all Jews was imposed by Hitler, Denmark resisted the regulation when the king indicated that he too

would wear the symbol.

Seaville Friends shared this message in the hope of raising awareness and alerting Friends to the recently introduced legislation by Rep. Suzan DelBene (D-WA) to prohibit the creation or use of a registry based on religious affiliation. This bill reaffirms a basic constitutional right. Concerned Friends can take action by urging their representatives to demonstrate their commitment to religious freedom by co-sponsoring H.R. 6382, the "No Religious Registry Act."

Meeting was closed in worship.

Rebecca Shapiro, recording clerk

The Marriage of George Fox and Margaret Fell

About the latter end of 1669 George Fox went to Bristol, at which place, he entered into matrimonial alliance with his old friend and fellow-sufferer, Margaret Fell. The particulars of this event afford a pleasing trait of the integrity and simplicity of his dealings.

“I had seen from the Lord a considerable time before, that I should take Margaret Fell to be my wife ; and when I first mentioned it to her, she felt the answer of life from God thereto. But though the Lord had opened this thing to me, yet I had not received a command from Him for the accomplishing of it at this time. Wherefore I let the affair rest, and went on in the work and service of the Lord, according as he had led me, travelling in this nation and through Ireland.

“But being now at Bristol, and finding Margaret Fell there, it opened to me from the Lord, the thing should be accomplished. After we had discoursed the matter together, I told her, if she was also satisfied with the accomplishing of it now, she should first send for her children, which she did. When her daughters were come, I asked both of them

(Continued on page 18)

The Embrace

by Mary Waddington

Today I walked north along the edge of the river, leaving my tiny beach-front neighborhood behind and entering my inner sanctum. I headed for the wild persimmon tree that grows on the berm where marsh meets sand, hoping the cold autumn nights had left a few fruits still clinging to their twigs. As I closed in on the tree my eyes swept upward, stopped with a jolt, and latched onto the top branches. There, looking down at me, was the compact hulk of a bald eagle. I froze in my tracks. He sat motionless on his sturdy perch, hunched and huge, facing me squarely and openly. It was obvious he'd been watching my approach and at least for now he was upholding his squatter's rights.

We both remained motionless. My mind begged him to stay so I could get to know him, and he stayed. He scrutinized me and I couldn't imagine what he was thinking. Whatever it was, he appeared unperturbed and trusting. This chance meeting soon relaxed into comfort. He then began a series of head swivels to the west to check out the river, but he always turned back to give me his full attention. As we deepened our connection I felt more and more strongly that we had known each other before.

And why shouldn't we have. We both raised our children here, as did our parents. Our ancestors had flown or boated or walked this corridor for generations, sharing its food and its space. This eagle and I know what it's like to be free and feel safe. We've avoided the crowds and the structures that blunt our instincts and diminish our choices. It came to me that we understood each other, that our common ground was much more than breathing the same air.

As we continued to gaze into each other, neither was entertaining notions of lapsing time or of moving on. There was a completion in just being. The sharing of our time and space felt whole. And holy. Rarely have I experienced such an intimacy that needed neither word nor touch.

The eagle saw something in the river I could not see. Suddenly, and quite effortlessly, he lifted his bulk from the perch and flew west, keeping close to the surface of the water. My eyes followed him as he banked, headed up the creek and disappeared. I stood for a while where he'd left me, hanging on to what had been. Then I slowly moved up to the tree and stood beneath his perch.

Five small persimmons hung within my reach and fell readily into my hand. I put one in my mouth and sucked from its many seeds its sparse but thick and sweet and slippery flesh. Then each seed, in its turn, slid through my pursed lips and fell sticky into the sand. In this way I ate each.

Steering Committee Report

December 11, 2016

Steering Committee Clerk. Clerk Paul Somers continues to recover from his auto accident. He has asked to take a leave as clerk of steering committee. Friends confirmed the earlier arrangement that former clerk Mike Ayars will fill in as acting Steering Committee clerk during Paul Somers' recovery. This will be until further notice.

The **Quaker Journals** discussion series at Friends Village was very successful. Several of the sessions were suitable for podcasts. The "Clearly Quaker" podcasts can be found at our Salem Quarter web page (salemquarter.net). Thanks to Jared Valdez who recorded, edited, and published the podcasts. Jared recorded today's program with Lucy Duncan and it will be the next podcast.

By request of the Steering Committee, Jared will assume a greater role in the Quarter website development and maintenance.

The Quarter e-bulletin statistics show an open rate of 40.4%, up 4.3% from last time. 155 Friends opened it, 277 times. Reviews have been very favorable: for example,

I just wanted to compliment you on the terrific newsletter, which I read word for word. It is such a pleasure to have this mix of inspiration and news, all presented in a straightforward and easy to access format. The choice of poem, use of photographs, and inclusion of a "mystery" all contribute to a "must read" email in my box. Kudos to you for deepening the moment and bringing us all up to speed with such excellent and inclusive communications.

Lisa S. Garrison, Greenwich Friends Meeting

SJ Chapter Fellowship of Quakers in the Arts.: A December-January Art Exhibit at Friends Village sponsored by our South Jersey FQA chapter is now on display through January 2. Most are for sale for that unique Christmas gift. Support your Quaker artists!

Meetings are reminded of the request from Friends Foundation for a picture/art of your meetinghouse for the Friends Village Meeting Room. They may be dropped off in the Meeting Room, or contact Mike Ayars.

Alloways Creek Committee: Preservation plan architects visited the site in October and November. The committee has found their visits to be interesting and informative.

In connection with the Hancock House, Doris Tice arranged for a Penn Anthropology class visit to the 1756 Alloways Creek meetinghouse. We also met the new full-time state historian for the Hancock House. He is excited about the prospect of using the meetinghouse as a presentation space for the Hancock House as well as other potential

uses. He is a Revolutionary War expert and recently made a fascinating presentation to the Genealogical Society about Salem County Revolutionary War history.

March QM at Woodstown: Norvel Reese (Newtown Meeting) will present the program “How to revitalize a shrinking meeting and get all the work done.” It will be a program of practical applications focusing on what to do and how to do it. This could lead to a one-day workshop for interested meetings.

March is Youth Art Month, and Woodstown Meeting plans to have a youth art project that would begin when our program starts, and end about 15 minutes before close of meeting for worship. It will be led by Gail Scuderi of Woodstown Meeting. The art created will be displayed at Friends Village in the future as part of a youth art exhibition. We are encouraging Friends to bring their children/grandchildren.

June QM at Greenwich: The Lower Alloways Creek Committee may be ready to present a program on their progress and future plans.

Ideas/topics for future Quarterly Meetings? Your meeting’s steering committee representative would like to hear your ideas.

Respectfully submitted, Mike Ayars, acting clerk

The Sky Beyond Branches

George A. Crispin

Living on a farm in the middle of seven acres of woods, I frequently enter the world of nature by taking my health-preserving walks. Blood circulates faster, I breathe more deeply, muscles contract, but my walks are as good for my mind and spirit as they are for my body. I think more clearly and am spiritually uplifted. Few would argue that spiritual experiences can only happen in churches or meeting houses. Some of my most profound spiritual experiences have occurred on my walks in the woods.

For the most part my gaze is fixed on what is in front of me, or what is going on around me. Squirrels race up a tree faster than I can climb stairs. Hawks soar above me, and rabbits complete the one-hundred meter dash in world record time. But quite often and predictably my gaze rises above the branches. The world is different above the branches. Up there are birds in flight, some a mile or more high. Beyond them are the clouds. The cumulous or stratus clouds invite the imagination to create enormous sailing vessels or panthers in a lunge. Then, beyond that the blue-gray of the sky that rises to a height of 200 miles. Beyond that the blackness, and then the enormity of space, 10,000 stars we can see on a clear night, and beyond that billions of galaxies, and an enormity we cannot comprehend.

Most of what we experience in our lives has a sky beyond branches. We live in a moment of time, but in the sky beyond branches there is history, the Founding Fathers, before that the Age of Exploration, and before that the Age of Feudalism, and so on. In every age there is the path we are presently on, and above that the sky beyond branches. Today our nation is on a path worn with rocks and stones and roots we can trip over, but beyond that there is a sky beyond branches a higher vision. Perhaps it is a better world, one with healing and less divisions, and less conflict.

The sky beyond branches also lies within our personal lives as well. There may be obstacles to trip over at our feet, an exhausting schedule, employment one does not like, children in trouble, a fragile marriage, and the like. But if we lift our eyes we might become transfixed by the sky beyond branches. We might find more rest, a better job, children healed by our understanding, more love in our marriage, and beyond that a universe filled with joys we can barely comprehend. Let us look to the sky beyond branches.

Indian Affairs Committee

11th Day, Twelfth Month, 2016

On behalf of the IAC, we are thankful for additional forms of communication carrying our witness promptly in the SQ News, eBulletin, and SQ website, including that calendar.

At our last meeting, friends watched *He Can Fancy Dance* by Cindy Paul. A 4:37 video clip dedicated to residential school survivors and the families affected by Indian Boarding Schools; we then entered into expectant worship. Friends' leadings include Native issues of sovereignty, legal justice, environmental justice, truth telling, and healing; righting the wrongs of cultural oppression, misappropriations, civil rights offenses. Our next meeting is set for February 15, 2:00 pm in the Woodstown MM social room; this committee is open to the whole of Salem Quarter. We are thankful for Woodstown MM's hospitality to host this work for the Quarter.

Tri-Quarter Gathering 2016 provided a warm welcome for the first "On The Road" IAC Table Display. Over three days, we discovered common knowledge, clarified local NJ history, and found the campers wanting more. Our table was embellished with Friend Mary Waddington's photographs. Sandra co-facilitated a workshop with Nanticoke Lenape Supreme Justice, Dr. John Norwood. We delved into Lenape Culture, addressing the year's theme Crossing the Bridge: Body, Mind, Soul, Earth. We heard details reflecting "that of spirit/ God being in all of nature" and closed with a friendship dance.

The second On The Road IAC venture was welcomed by MMM for Community Day. This experience stretched beyond the prior Quaker audience and we noted the conversation leaning closer to the Cohanzick vicinity. We raised awareness to the limitations experienced by the NLL Nation by not being re-affirmed – being denied educational scholarships tagged for Native scholars; art work not able to be sold as Native made (without potential \$25,000 fine for the first offense...) and being denied health grants and initiatives from Fed. State, local governments. Although this Tribal Nation has satisfied the state's criteria, we wait; meanwhile, the Tribe has purchased a second parcel of land and moves forward under their own governance.

Joyfully, we entertained a third On The Road outing with Salem MM during the Yuletide Tour. Docents for the meetinghouse segued their history with the 1675 arrival of Quakers aboard the Griffin. Conversation in this venue lifted the commonalities between the early Quakers and Lenape. Folks were not surprised that some Lenape remained; they were surprised to learn that sovereignty is being denied. Visitors were uplifted knowing that we offered additional support through workshops and film screenings. Might our meetinghouses open doors to the public for these options, extending our outreach?

Our letter of support for the Tribal Nation is in their legal council's portfolio, along with the amicus brief, as the lawsuit moves forward. Posts are made by their council, Cultural Heritage Partners, as an "affiliate" link on the SQ IAC web page. www.salemquarter.net/iac

The conference, *Quakers, First Nations, Native Americans*, drew listeners from around the continental US and Canada. The presenters' papers are available from the IAC clerk. Some work compiled previous research, some was original research. There were moments of discomfort, sensing a lack of Native perspective and invitation into the conversation, leaving some Native Peoples feeling talked about as if not in the room. On the flip side, there was opportunity for networking with Native Peoples, researchers, and Yearly Meeting representatives; a dinner conversation united the NYYM "delegation," Paula Palmer, and IAC members. The 1995 Wampum belt made by Lone Bear Revey (Lenape,) a replica of the Penn Treaty belt, was on display at the QFNAI conference. Wampum carries the message, the spirit and intention of deliberations. With the PYM IC, the IAC is discerning best practice for her care and use; we carry the word of Lenape Chiefs.

From the Oceti Sakowin Camp, Protect Mother Earth, Water Is Life; NoDAPL; Sovereignty: The Murphy's met with Royce Gay, spiritual leader of the Oceti Sakowin, at Langley Friends Meeting, McLean VA. In the tradition of Native Peoples, a "Talking Stick" was gifted, a gesture that Salem Quarter, Quakers of South Jersey, are listening; Royce passed the talking stick among the congregation for everyone (which included interfaith leaders) to infuse their messages. He was escorted to Capitol Hill by Christine Ashley of FCNL; according to Christine, this was the only gift presented to him and he was moved. Royce's messages to us included the following points:

- 1) work locally to protect Mother Earth. Mother Earth is Mother Earth in all communities.
- 2) call Federal government officials; being Federally recognized, and having Treaties, they have treaty rights. The legislator's expressed that they want to hear from constituents; their numbers are available from the FCNL website; a) ask for the violence to stop, support the Native Peoples civil rights and b) ask for the DAPL to be stopped, not merely rerouted.
- 3) To support the Oceti Sakowin, follow "current" changing needs, identified on their website <http://www.ocetisakowincamp.org/> Understand, when in their "homeland" you are their guest, and they feel responsible for your well being. Consider a) having anti-violence training before heading out to their camp, b) medical supplies c) means for shelter and warmth.

Woodstown MM has written a Minute Supporting Standing Rock. Grassroots thinking and work is applauded; the IAC appreciates the involvement of our community; in unity our strength is found. Many

Stand with Standing Rock minutes and resolutions are circulating. When shifts of thinking resonate, our Quaker manner is to draft a minute. It is important to carry the “word into deed.” For example, the SQ minute to support the NLL was followed by letter writing, along with regularly celebrating their joys and carrying their sorrows. Our committee regularly reflects on “next steps.” We wonder, how might we come to know our Lakota, Dakota, Nakota brothers and sisters? How might we care for Mother Earth here?

PYM 2015 Minuted our call to discern “...isms.” The recent Continuing Sessions at Westtown School offered many opportunities for spiritual conversation. Vision has inspired the diligent work of the Undo Racism Group, the formation of an FCNL Collaborative, and identity of PYM IC as a “granting group,” yet, over the nearly two years, we have not heard language reflecting an inclusive voice by or for Native Peoples. This Friend spoke to that concern, and before leaving the campus grounds, no fewer than eight SQ Friends spoke of their support. Since then, PYM staffers have been in contact with the IAC clerk and they are mindfully considering alternate forms of structure to address this concern.

Quaker presence and MC @ Friends Center was the site of a film screening. The SQ IAC clerk was asked to be a Friendly presence and MC. Along with the co-sponsors, Pachamama Alliance and Food and Water Watch, Lenape Chief Dwaine Perry (Ramopough), Chief Dennis Coker (Lenape Tribe of DE) and film co-producer Steven Newcomb were “in the house.” One of the initiatives that the Chiefs emphasized, that was not addressed from invited faith leaders and environmental groups, beckons us to consider the features of colonization which may be embedded in good work; with reflection, how might our “work” be more inclusive, changing “domination” over the “savages”?

F(f)riends are reaching out for a) workshops and b) film screenings; the SQ Steering Committee has fliers for these opportunities and *We Are Still Here* booklets for each MM. The PYM Young Friends Coordinator, Hannah Mayer, has asked for a TRR workshop during their retreat at Wtn MM, Dec 2016. They have an Indigenous Justice subcommittee; IAC discussions with NLL and Lenape Tribe of DE include the intention to gather our youth – Native and non-Native – for truth telling and healing.

We visit, learn and worship with Native Peoples regularly, such as the Fall Gathering at the Cohanzick Tribal Grounds, caught a series of events at Dover (DE) On the Green, at Atlantic Cape Community College, Pendle Hill (Paula Palmer on the Indian Boarding School), an FCNL conference call with Parker Palmer.

Yours in service, Sandra Boone Murphy, Indian Affairs Committee, clerk

Grants for the Study and Practice of Christian Mysticism

The Elizabeth Ann Bogert Memorial Fund for the Study and Practice of Christian Mysticism, administered by Friends World Committee for Consultation, Section of the Americas, makes annual grants of up to \$1,000.

Recent Grants

A variety of proposals relating to Christian mysticism are given consideration by the Grants Committee. Recently funded projects have included a grant for the study of the papers of Quaker mystic Thomas Kelly at the Haverford Quaker Archives, a grant to Shalem Institute for Spiritual Formation in support of their programs, and a grant toward the costs of an experimental art project featuring images and quotations from spiritual writers.

Applications

Proposals should be no more than two pages and include the following: a full description of the project, including an indication of how the project relates to the study and/or practice of Christian mysticism; the specific amount of money requested; the way the grant will be spent; other sources of funding and plans for communicating the results to others. Two or three people who are familiar with your project should mail letters of reference directly to the clerk, Kenneth Woodrow Henke, Princeton Theological Seminary Library, PO. Box B21, Princeton, NJ 08542. E-mail inquiries may be sent to: kenneth.henke@ptsemedi

Application Deadline

Proposals and references for 2017 grants are due by March 1, 2017. Decisions are made by the Grants Committee in May and grants distributed in June. Recipients are asked to send a progress report within a year.

Worship & Ministry Report

12/9/2016

The committee met at the home of Michael & Rebecca Shapiro (Salem) on Friday evening, 12/9. Ten Friends were present with four out of the seven meetings in the Quarter represented.

After opening worship, we discussed the success of the Lecture-Discussion series on the Journals of Joshua Evans and John Hunt. Chris Densmore, curator of the Historical Library at Swarthmore College facilitated remarkable and deep discussions based on the journal entries. The time spent was rich with small intimate interactions. Only the first two sessions lent themselves as suitable for recording as a podcast on *Clearly Quaker*; check for the link on the Quarter website. We agreed that Friends Village was an ideal location and the staff there was most accommodating and gracious.

We contrasted this series to the last series we hosted led by Tom Swain. While the formats and content were varied, both were very well received although they reached different groups of Friends. We concluded that variation, meeting the need of differing groups was valuable. Not every program could or should be universally beneficial. The Gifts Working Group has not met since the end of August which suits their needs.

The Salem Worship & Ministry Committee has been reviewing their procedures for opening and closing worship. Representatives shared their methods and we considered the advantages and disadvantages of various procedures such as asking for additional messages or joys and concerns, reading queries, and watching the clock. We acknowledged that while worship should not be dictated by the clock; timing is a factor. We agreed that smaller gatherings may lend themselves to a greater sensitivity to the sense of closure. And we consistently seek balance in the un-programmed experience within a loose structure.

In a related vein, we considered the assorted practices including and excluding children during worship times.

Out of these discussions, we segued into some thought on the process of eldering with regard to messages and behavior in meeting for worship. A future quarter program followed by a series of teaching workshops might be of interest to Friends. Elderling is a form of nurturing with the key words of mutual love and respect.

Sandy Murphy shared her many experiences and concerns from her work with the Indian Committee. Out of love and sensitivity to her deep commitment, we offered support to her and advised her to create a specific focus on the initial workshop offerings to the Quarter.

We closed in worship and prayer, holding in the Light those Friends for whom we knew had a specific need and those of whom we may be

unaware. As always the Worship & Ministry Committee is filled with gratitude for the depth of our gatherings.

Tri-Quarter Journal
Thomas Valdez (8 Years Old)
October 1st 2016

We just went to this fun camping place for Quakers called TriQuarter. It was a cool camp! My first night there was awesome because we got to sleep in cabins. I enjoyed the cabins because they had no electricity and we had to hang up a lantern we brought. I got to sleep in the top bunk of a bunk bed. My Mom and Dad slept on the floor on a mat. I loved the bridge that we used to cross the stream to get to our cabin. It felt like we were sleeping in the middle of the woods.

I made a new friend while I was there. I thought that was cool because I didn't know her when I first came to camp. Her name is Gwen and I like her because she is fun to play with. I liked watching her ride her bike outside our cabins. We ate breakfast together and she liked the waffles a lot. The food was tasty.

When it came to the night, I got to go on a really awesome hay ride. We drove around other camps and it seemed like we were in the middle of nowhere. We wore glow sticks to help us see. I got to sit next to my friend Julia. The next day I went to this fun kids program and I made two friendship bracelets. One was for me and the other went to a Native American child.

We also went on a hunt for plastic bugs and dinosaurs and we crossed a bridge that Cindy called the bridge to health. I got to make a tie dye shirt with other kids and mine used all the colors they had. It looks really cool and it fits on me just right. I spilled hot chocolate on my shirt and I couldn't see it because of the colors that I used.

I went square dancing the last night I was at camp. I liked square dancing because I had never been dancing before. I got to dance with older girls. We did the Dosey Doe. After I went square dancing there was a thing called an ice cream social. The ice cream was delicious because there were so many toppings. I enjoyed TriQuarter a lot, it was really fun. I hope I can come next year.

Salem Quarter Indian Affairs Committee

In October 2015, Sandra Boone and Jim Murphy joined BYM IC on their trip to Carlisle Indian Boarding School (1889-1918) in Carlisle, PA. Our guides, Sandi Cianciulli (Oglala Lakota) and Maryann Robins (Onondaga) of Circle Legacy, addressed our concerns of the IBS era. We learned that the Indian boarding schools in operation today are operated by tribal nations and are no longer mandatory.

We saw the well-preserved gym where Jim Thorpe trained under his mentor “Pop” Warner, and the industrial farm house building, which Circle Legacy is trying to preserve. But it was during the first part of the CIBS tour where we smudged before entering the graveyard that draws regard for the past, and tests our faith and modern “practice.”

We walked among the 227 marked and unmarked stones. Eighty-two percent, 186 represent Carlisle scholars that did not return to their ancestral home. These graves have been relocated from their original campus site. Early in 2016, the Sicangu Lakota (Sioux) Youth Council, with support from the Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) and tribal governments, petitioned the U.S. Army for repatriation. In May 2016, the Army pledged to return the remains of 10 children to the Rosebud Reservation for proper, culturally relevant burial, adding they were willing to finance disinterment and travel. When honored, this repatriation will be a step toward reconciliation and healing. Na ne lekech, let it be so.



(Continued from page 6)

and her sons-in-law, ' if they had anything against it, or for it?' and they all severally expressed their satisfaction therewith. Then I asked Margaret Fell, ' if she had fulfilled her husband's will to her children ?' She replied, ' the children knew she had.' Whereupon I asked them, whether, if their mother married, they should not lose by it? I asked Margaret, ' whether she had done anything in lieu of their claims, which might answer it to the children ? They replied, ' she had answered it to them, and desired me to say no more about it.' ' I told them that I was plain, and would have all things done plainly : for I sought not any outward advantage to myself.' So our intention of marriage was laid before Friends both privately and publicly, to their full satisfaction, many of whom gave testimony that it was of God. Afterwards a meeting being appointed on purpose for the accomplishing thereof, we took each other in marriage, in the meeting-house at Broad Mead, in Bristol; the Lord joining us together in honourable marriage, in the everlasting covenant and immortal Seed of Life. In the sense whereof, living and weighty testimonies were borne thereunto by Friends in the movings of the heavenly power which united us together. Then was a certificate, relating both the proceedings and the marriage, openly read, and signed by the relations, and by most of the ancient Friends of the city; besides many others from divers parts of the nation.

"We stayed about a week at Bristol, and then went together to Oldstone: where, taking leave of each other in the Lord, we parted, betaking ourselves each to our several service; Margaret returning homewards to the North, and I passing on in the work of the Lord as before. I travelled through Wiltshire, Berkshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and so on to London, visiting Friends : in all which counties I had many large and precious meetings."

Information for Visiting
(see also www.salemquarter.net)

Greenwich: Upper Greate Street P.O. Box 18, Greenwich, N.J. 08323
856-451-8217, from 15 Sep to 15 Jun, Lower Greate Street mtgths; from
15 Jun to 15 Sept, Upper mtgths Worship 9:30-10:15, After-words and
general fellowship 10:15 to 10:30, , First Day School, children and adults.
10:30 to 11:15

Mickleton: 413 Kings Highway, PO Box 231, Mickleton, N.J. 08056 856-423-
3782; mickletonmeeting.org ; Worship 10:00 am, children's First-day
School 10:15

Mullica Hill: 2 Woodstown Road (Route 45 just south of Route 77), P.O. Box
67, Mullica Hill, N.J. 08062; 856- 478-2184; mullicahillfriends.org ;
Worship 9:30 After-words and general fellowship 10:45, Meeting for
Learning 11:15

Salem: East Broadway at Walnut Street, P.O. Box 7, Salem, N.J. 08079;
Worship 10:30; First Day School 9:15 am Sept.-May

Seaville: 3088 South Shore Road (Rte. 9, 1 mile S. of Rte. 50), Ocean View,
N.J. 08230; 609-624-1165; seavillequaker.tripod.com ;
Worship 10:00 am **Beach meetings** from Memorial Day to Labor Day
weather permitting **In Cape May** Windsor Ave and the water, 9:00 am
Sundays, **in Ocean City**, 23rd St. and the beach, 8:30 AM Sundays

Southern State Worship Group: Call Roshan Dinshah for info 856-694-3025

Woodbury: 124 North Broad Street, Woodbury, N.J. 08096; 856 -845-5080;
http://www.pym.org/pym_mms/woodburynj_salq/.php
www.meetup.com/Woodbury-Friends_Meeting First-day School 10:00
am, worship 11:15 am

Woodstown, 104 North Main St., P.O. Box 13, Woodstown, N.J. 08098;
856-478-4618 <http://www.woodstownfriends.org> ; First-day School 9:15
am Worship 10:30 am

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